



The Blurb



Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club
Public Service Since 1949

Volume 74 Number 08

www.phil-mont.org



International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend – ILLW

**Saturday Aug 19th
Sunday August 20th**

WE WILL BE OPERATING



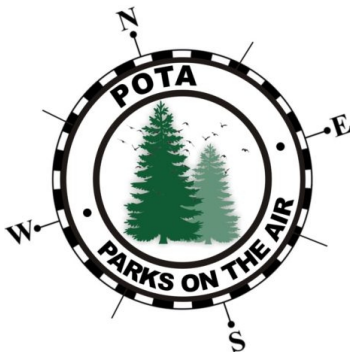
Bike MS: City to Shore Ride

September 30 - October 1, 2023

Bike MS: Bike to the Bay

October 7, 2023

MORE INFO



OKT POTA FEST

**Saturday and Sunday
October 21st and 22nd**

Fort Washington STATE PARK

The Radio Amateur's Code

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE... They never knowingly operate in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL... They offer loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, the IARU Radio Society in their country, through which Amateur Radio in their country is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE... They keep their station up to date. It is well-built and efficient. Their operating practice is above reproach.

FRIENDLY... They operate slowly and patiently when requested; offer friendly advice and counsel to beginners; kind assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the marks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED... Radio is a hobby, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC... Their station and skills are always ready for service to country and community.

- adapted from the original Amateur's Code, written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928

Get the Net!

There's no ham radio without YOU!

Get on the air and share! Operate, cooperate, & celebrate ham radio!

CLUB REPEATERS

Phil-Mont's Drive Time Net

*Join us on the air every
Monday to Friday 1700
to 1800 EDT on:*

- 147.030 MHz (+offset 91.5 PL)
- Bucks County and North PL 88.5 (147.030)
- [Echolink W3QV-R](#)
ALLSTAR 47970
- _____

SUNDAY NET Control Schedule

Aug 6	KB3SJS
Aug 13	W3UP
Aug 20	WA3GM
Aug 27	W3MHP

Join IN!

VHF: 147.030 MHz (+offset 91.5 PL)
Bucks County and North PL 88.5
(147.030)

UHF: 444.80 MHz Yaesu System
Fusion WiresX

[ECHOLINK W3QV-R](#) &

[ALLSTAR 47970](#)

[EMAIL REPEATER COMMITTEE](#)

<http://phil-mont.org/#nets>

CQ! CQ! CQ!



**Calling CQ for New
Net Control
Operators !**

*Hey there. It's me, mic.
Listen, we need to talk...*

Sunday Morning Nets

*Three Nets on three
bands, all in a Row! Tune
in on any or all for a
Sunday morning 'Hello!'*

0930 EDT:

- 147.030 MHz (+offset 91.5 PL)
- Bucks County and North PL 88.5 (147.030)
- 2m, [Echolink W3QV-R](#)
- [ALLSTAR](#) 47970

1000 EDT:

75 meter Net (3.993
MHz LSB +/-QRM)

1030 EDT:

10 meter Net (28.393
MHz USB +/-QRM)

Club Business

NEXT GENERAL CLUB MEETING:

**Wednesday
September 13th**

IN PERSON *ONLY*

At [Giant Supermarket 315 York Rd.](#)

[Willow Grove, PA 19090](#)

5:30 Snack 6:30 Business 7:00 Presentation

MS150

About Event and HOW TO Participate

Andrew KC2PMW



BIRTHDAYS

Aug 06 KC3SZB Tom

Aug 16 W3AFV Chuck

Aug 28 KC3UTO Jeffrey

Aug 30 WA3ADI Vince

*Want your Birthday read on
the Net? Update your info at
hamclubonline.com*

New Pending Club Members

Scudder Stevens, KC3UTQ, Technician

David P Ewing Jr, K3ALT, Technician

Walter C Mankowski, KC3WHU, General

Melissa Pendry KC3WKF, Technician

Paul Birden KB2YFY, General



welcomes you!

Phil-Mont Membership Stats

Member Types Statistics: (Active Members)

REGULAR 150

Family Member 8

Student 3

Honorary 2

Total 163

Philadelphia



ARES

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service are trained licensed amateur radio operators providing radio communications as a public service in disaster situations. All licensed operators are welcome to join. To get started fill out this [ARES Registration form](#) and [submit it to Cliff Hotchkiss](#) (KC3PGT), the Philadelphia Emergency Coordinator.

**Join the A.R.E.S.
Training Net**

**Every Sunday
evening at 2100 (9:00
PM)**

147.030 MHz

The Prez Sez.

Hello Phil-Mont!

We can't smell a thing. We have NO NOSE!

That's right. Whatever you want to do in this hobby we will support you.

I can't SAY or TYPE this enough as a reply. NO NOs. NO NOSE.

This is the hobby of many sub hobbies. Whatever you want to explore LET US KNOW. EXPLORE IT.

Some current examples:

MEME Month. What the heck? What's a MEME?

In popular language, a meme may refer to an Internet meme, typically an image, that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online.

OK. Yeah, you've seen them. Probably growing weary of them, BUT we cannot say we want to attract NEW YOUNGER hams and not have and participate in their 'culture'. This is a hobby, right? Have a little fun. Remember when you did stuff FOR NO REAL REASON other THAN FUN. RELIVE THAT!

From their website <https://mememonth.ca/>

What in the world is this "Meme Appreciation Month"?

The archives say it started in Canada as a way to spread joy & cheer to all the good little hams on the RF spectrum.

Honestly it's a way for young hams to have some fun, use a cool callsign and do a neat activity together.

To make it short - a meme is something most young people know and find funny.

If this funny bit makes it into amateur radio and attracts the young folk - perfect, right?

Why the heck do you do this?

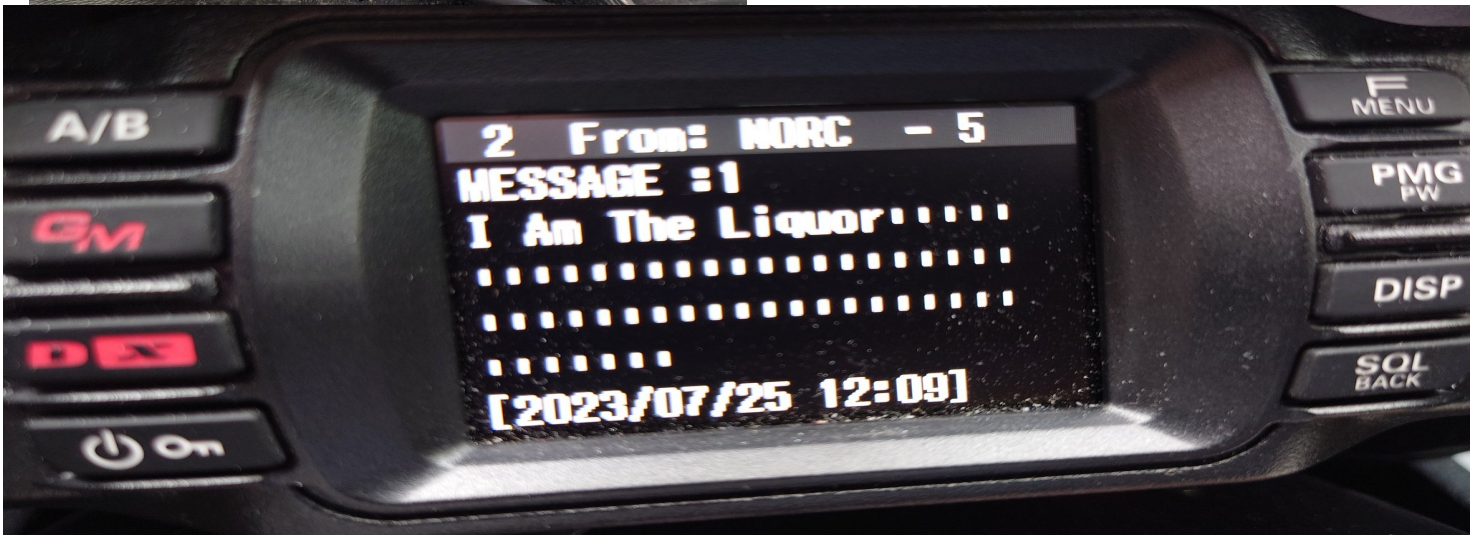
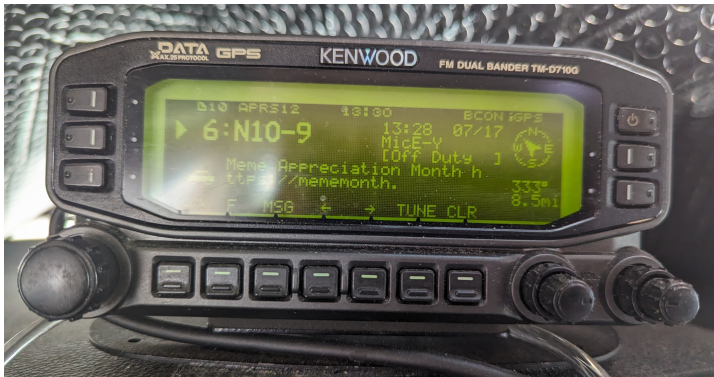
Boredom, mischief, and too much free time (^:

Aside from that, we need moooooore of these young ham persons ;)

So, give yourself a break; don't take yourself or your hobby too seriously, AND HAVE A LITTLE FUN!

The Blurb

The Prez Sez..



**Current topics on Groups.IO
Noise around 30th Street.**

PERFECT add-on to our UPCOMING Lighthouse Event. A little RFI sniffing and decoding....ham SIGINT.

RFctf. RF Capture the Flag! GAMIFY it. This is how I became a ham. At a 'security' convention I took a class on "Wireless Auditing". THE FIRST SLIDE: "You want to learn about RF? Become a ham."

Some have mentioned various things that could be the cause of this interference. Let's FIND them. And see where we can go from there. HTs...sdr dongles...bring what you have and get YOUR SIGINT ON!

POCSAG? <https://www.kali.org/tools/multimon-ng/>

The Blurb

The Prez Sez...

Upcoming EVENTS:

**Saturday and Sunday August 19th and 20th.
ILLW - International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend**

**We will be operating Turtle Rock Lighthouse
on Boathouse Row - 15 Kelly Dr, Philadelphia, PA 19130**

Come out and operate. Come out and SIGINT.

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING: September 13th
MS150**

Andrew KC2PMW will be reviewing all about the event.

BUT, REGISTER NOW: <https://www.n3mss.org/>

**All questions will be answered at this presentation. There will be many there to assist
all first timers.**

**Visit our site for more info about the event to get comfortable:
<http://phil-mont.org/pubService/>**

**Happenings in September. CLUB ELECTION NOMINATIONS
Start thinking about getting involved with the club. It only works with your help.
We have room for as MUCH or as LITTLE as you would like to do.
ALL OFFICER POSITIONS will be OPEN and 3 Board Member Positions as well.**

**I will NOT be running for any positions. I have done my time. Time to PLAY RADIO
(again).**

Thank you all for your support.

**OCTOBER
OKT POTA FEST
Saturday and Sunday October 21st and 22nd
Fort Washington State Park Site B**

Bill just keeps reserving campspace....so someone has to use it!

The Prez Sez...

EVERY SINGLE MINUTE

remember, this is **YOUR HOBBY, YOUR Club, YOUR repeaters.**

USE them. MONITOR them. BE A REPEATER GREETER.

**Answer calls when you can. Let's try to leave
NO CALL UNANSWERED.**

PLAY*BREAK*LEARN

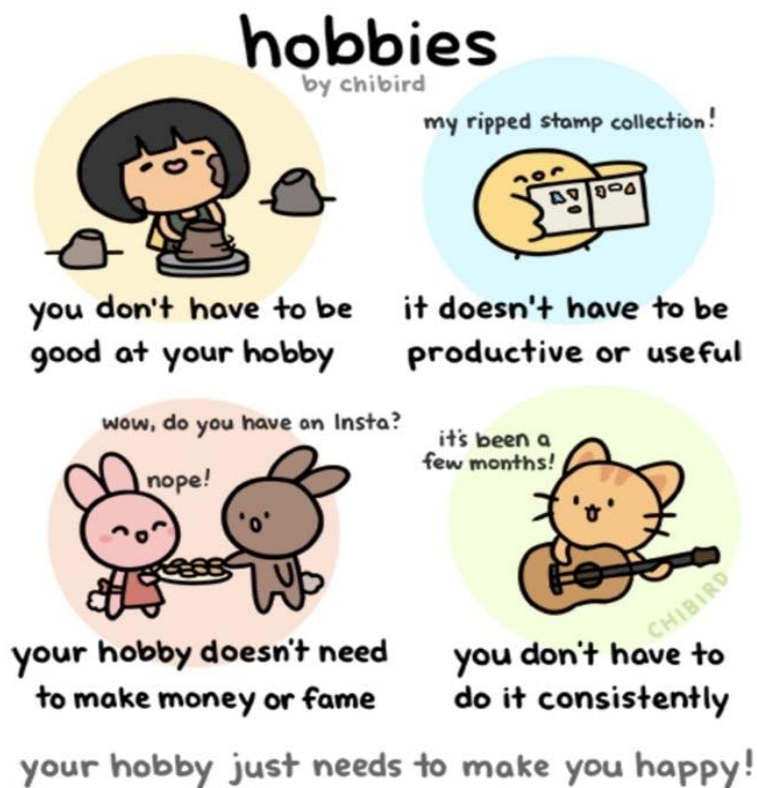
jim fisher

AJ3DI

"Do, or do not. There is no 'try.'"

-- Jedi Master Yoda

chibird



There can be a lot of pressure to make your hobby into "something". But your hobby doesn't have to be anything but a hobby! Do things because you enjoy it, and don't worry about having to make it more than that.

Title: What's a....hamfest?

Well, let me preface by saying that sadly, I've NEVER gotten a ham sandwich at a hamfest. NEVER.

That aside - what's a hamfest? Well basically its a flea market, but instead of having baby clothes and 1990s food processors (no guarantees), it's where ham radio operators, as well as computer nerds and other similar types get together and try to sell each other their stuff. The difference with a hamfest is that the stuff is usually electronic or gadget in nature - ham radios, radio accessories, cabling, computer stuff, network gear, parts, projects, and just about anything else with a blinky light. It can be modern stuff to "marconi-era", as well as consumer-grade stuff to government surplus (and everything in between).

WHERE TO FIND THEM

How do I find out about hamfests? Well the best answer is to check out the ARRL hamfest calendar at <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar>. You can find a list of hamfest sorted by various criteria, and here in the "tri-state" area, I suggest when you search there, make sure you search your neighboring states like NJ, DE, and maybe even MD; that gets you about an hour and a half drive from the Philadelphia area. There's also the bigguns such as MIT Flea, Dayton and Orlando, but those require a little more planning.

Note that hamfests, in some cases, have been struggling lately to find a new crowd, as such some are smaller than others, but as a "certified hamfest veteran" I can assure you size means nothing when it comes to hamfests. I've gotten some good buys at small events in the rain, and I went to Dayton (one of the largest) and came back with a single-digit number of purchases.

PREP

If you plan to attend a hamfest, my suggestion is to make sure you bring a heavy-duty backpack or bag to carry your wares in, and bring a small folding handtruck if you're hunting for a boat anchor or 10. Also, throw a box or two in your trunk so you have a place to dump out your smaller loot if you need to. (When I bring my nephews they get each have their own box/bags).

Shopping List - use your notepad, your phone, or whatever to make a very general list of stuff you want to look for. Trust me when I say you'll easily forget it in the heat of the moment. Also, if you're looking for a higher dollar item, do a little research to see what they typically go for to both ensure you're getting a deal and that you're not out of the ballpark in making an offer either.

Also, early mornings are generally cool around here, sometimes even on hot says, so make sure you dress for the swing in the PA weather.

Speaking of early mornings, plan to get there SUPER EARLY if you want a deal. Hams seem to like "crack of dawn" times so plan to be there before gates open for the best deals. (Super tip - bring a table and some junk to sell - then get a vendor pass to get in early).

Testing - Some hamfests offer talks and VE testing, so if you're looking to upgrade, maybe factor that into your trip and study!

Aaand the most important thing - CASH, and go for smaller bills like 1s,5s, 10s as sometimes vendors get swamped with 20s from the ATM crowd. I usually buy my morning coffee with a \$20 so I get some smaller bills as change on the way.

(Don't forget cash for admission - some fests are free, others are usually \$5-10 to get in. Kids under a certain age-ish are often free)

OK I'M THERE! NOW WHAT?

Well, SHOP silly! Don't be afraid to DIG! Some vendors just show up with random boxes of junk. Don't be afraid to dig in and look for little doohickeys and whats-ee-hoosits you need for your shack. Often times these are some of the better deals, and usually the kind of stuff where you make a pile and get a price.

And while you're shopping, don't forget to fill out your door prize ticket with somewhat readable information and get it into the bucket. Check the door prize list often if you're half deaf like I am.

The most often thing I look for nowadays are usually connectors; cables, plugs, plug ends, whatever, but I've been finding more often that having a selection of connectors I use often means I can get projects done faster, so don't discount that! There's often a couple tables that are bulk-connector dealers, so take advantage of them as you're not paying shipping or waiting!

BARGAIN. Note that I didn't say "lowball". While you're free to offer whatever you think something may be worth, keep in mind it takes a lot of effort to compile stuff, clean it up, get it into the car, unload it onto a table, and so on. It's OK, almost expected to haggle on some things but cmon, if you know you're already getting a deal, pay them and let the vendor make some green so we can keep them coming back and keep the sh..tuff off Ebay.

If you parked at the far end of the lot, better spots usually open up by the first time you run back to the car, so feel free to move your car to a better spot if you're finding lots of buys.

To wrap it up - TALK. I started going to hamfests far before I ever got licensed, and now that I'm in the game, I get a chance to say hello to a lot of people I hear online but often only see at the events. If you hear a familiar call sign don't be afraid to say hello and introduce yourself, especially if you're new! If you see a vendor that has junk that's up your alley - talk to them! They may have more they didn't bring, or just have similar interests to you.

That's all I got for now - good luck and I'll see you at a 'fest!

Jeff KC3GJX

08/05/2023 - Reading Radio Club Hamfest

Location: Sinking Spring, PA

Sponsor: Reading Radio Club, Inc.

Website: <http://www.qsl.net/w3bn/>

08/13/2023 - Valley Forge Hamfest

Location: Phoenixville, PA

Sponsor: Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club (MARC)

Website: <http://marc-radio.org/hamfest2.htm>

09/17/2023 - EPARA Hamfest

Location: East Stroudsburg, PA

Sponsor: Eastern Pennsylvania Amateur Radio Association

Website: <http://qsl.net/n3is>

10/07/2023 - Red Rose Repeater Association Hamfest

Location: New Holland, PA

Sponsor: Red Rose Repeater Association

Website: <http://w3rrr.org>

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/search>

PHIL-MONT ROCKs THE ROCK!

W3EM ILLW Turtle Rock US0053

Sat 8/19 and Sun 8/20

Thanks to the folks at

Turtle Rock Light and the Sedgeley Club

15 Boathouse Row, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19130

International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend - ILLW

3rd Full Weekend in August since 1998

**00.01UTC 19th August to 24.00UTC 20th August 2023
(48 hours)**

USA W3EM Turtle Rock, PA US0053

The Lighthouse at Turtle Rock

15 Kelly Dr, Philadelphia, PA 19130



QSL CARD



N3MSS

Amateur Radio Communications

Bike MS: City to Shore Ride

September 30 - October 1, 2023

2023 Sign-Up Form (Online):

<https://forms.gle/rcw5RJPMjJkqC8vb6>

Bike MS: Bike to the Bay

October 7, 2023

2023 Sign-Up Form (Online):

<https://forms.gle/tQuqCoahRKa5q3yHA>

<https://www.n3mss.org/>

Won't You Join Us...
in ***The DENn!***

Phil-Mont's *Digital Education Net for newbies!*

Tuesday Evenings @8:00pm

W3QV Repeater: 147.030 MHz + 91.5
Allstar Node: 47970

Don't let the name fool you!

All are welcomed to join us and play. It doesn't matter if you are new to Ham Radio, new to digital modes, or are an already experienced ham and digital operator.

We are here to play, learn, and test our equipment.

With the digital modes if you can do it on the repeater you can do it pretty much everywhere, *including HF.*

*So come on out, test your setup, and **HAVE SOME FUN!***

NET CONTROLS KC3SMW Greg NY3J Ron

TinkerNet - Every 3rd Saturday (non LABS months)



**9:00am to 10:30am on the repeater
and Z O O M video backchannel**

The Last Page



The Blurb wants to hear from **YOU!**

Got a hot lead on antenna design? Soldering up a special circuit? Digging some new DSP? Reminiscing about some retro receivers? Maybe you have some goodies for sale?

Click the big blue envelope
and tell us your tale!

PMRC Officers for 2023

EMAIL THE BOARD

Officers

President: AJ3DI Jim

V. President: AA3RC Rich

Treasurer: Jim NS3K

Secretary: Dave K3DFG

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K3RON Ron(23)

N3QV Eric(23)

W3AOK Bill(A)

KC3SMW Greg (24)

N3PEG Peg(24)

N3ZP Phil(24)

Blurb Editor: Daniel Wagaman - W4GMN



Club Email List

The Blurb